

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY
OF THE CITY OF
WOONSOCKET, RHODE ISLAND

1. Call to order: 4:30 p.m. Regular Meeting May 16, 2013 at the Woonsocket Housing Authority, 679 Social Street, Woonsocket, RI 02895

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Commissioner David Lahousse
Vice Chairwoman Rochefort
Commissioner Sally Anthony
Commissioner Charles Baldelli
Commissioner Roger Bouchard
Commissioner Theresa Corbeille
Commissioner Janet Lemieux

Robert Kulik, Executive Director
Deputy Director, Duncan Speel
Attorney Michael Murphy

-
2. Good and Welfare for the Audience – None
 3. Good and Welfare for the Commissioners - None

-
4. Chairman Lahousse asked for a motion to accept the minutes for the regular meeting of April 18, 2013. A motion was made by Commissioner Baldelli and seconded by Vice Chairwoman Rochefort.

There was no discussion. A roll call vote was taken; the following were the “Ayes” and “Nays”.

AYES

NAYS

Chairman Lahousse
Vice Chairwoman Rochefort
Commissioner Anthony
Commissioner Baldelli
Commissioner Bouchard
Commissioner Corbeille
Commissioner Lemieux - Abstain

-
5. Chairman Lahousse asked for a motion to accept the bills paid for the month of April 2013. A motion was made by Commissioner Baldelli and seconded by Vice Chairwoman Rochefort.

There was no discussion. A roll call vote was taken; the following were the “Ayes” and “Nays”.

AYES

NAYS

Chairman Lahousse
Vice Chairwoman Rochefort
Commissioner Anthony
Commissioner Baldelli
Commissioner Bouchard
Commissioner Corbeille
Commissioner Lemieux

6. Communications and Interest of the Authority

Chairman Lahousse asked for a motion to receive and place on file the Communications and Interest of the Authority, A - D. A motion was made by Commissioner Baldelli and seconded by Vice Chairwoman Rochefort.

Commissioner Lemieux asked about the Verizon communication. The Director explained that there is a conflict over the contract that is now being worked out by the attorneys. Vice Chairwoman Rochefort asked about the communication that residents at Kennedy Manor received regarding Verizon services.

The Director congratulated the Section 8 Department on again achieving High Performer Status from HUD with a SEMAP score of 100%.

There was no further discussion. A roll call vote was taken; the following were the “Ayes” and “Nays”.

AYES

NAYS

Chairman Lahousse
Vice Chairwoman Rochefort
Commissioner Anthony
Commissioner Baldelli
Commissioner Bouchard
Commissioner Corbeille
Commissioner Lemieux

7. Report of the Secretary

Chairman Lahousse asked for a motion to accept and place on file, the report of the Secretary, for purposes of discussion. A motion was made by Commissioner Corbeille and seconded by Vice Chairwoman Rochefort.

The Director submitted his report as written. He provided an update on the Assisted Living facility stating that June 4th is the Open House. The Assisted Living facility is being advertised via local print and radio media. There will be tours of the facility during the Open House and light refreshments will be provided. Vice Chairwoman Rochefort shared a conversation that she had with a resident of Kennedy Manor who is transferring to Assisted Living and how pleased and relieved that person was to be able to have the new services available. The Director indicated that he is anticipating all Assisted Living units being occupied by the end of August.

Commissioner Lemieux asked about the closing of HUD offices; Providence and Boston will remain open at this time.

There was no further discussion. A roll call vote was taken; the following were the "Ayes" and "Nays".

AYES

NAYS

Chairman Lahousse
Vice Chairwoman Rochefort
Commissioner Anthony
Commissioner Baldelli
Commissioner Bouchard
Commissioner Corbeille
Commissioner Lemieux

7A. Report of the Deputy Director

Chairman Lahousse asked for a motion to receive and place on file, the report of the Deputy, for purposes of discussion. A motion was made by Commissioner Baldelli and seconded by Commissioner Anthony.

The Deputy submitted his report as written, highlighting the panelizing work at Crepeau Court wrapping up; the project should be completed by the end of the month. Veteran's Memorial renovation work continues; there are many issues with these 50-year-old buildings, but the work is progressing. Interior work should be starting in about one month. The "Live Well" community health education grant program from Brown University continues at Veteran's Memorial and will be starting at Kennedy Manor in the months ahead.

Commissioner Baldelli asked (1) about the City's collecting (trash) tipping fees from the WHA: is the City looking for retroactive payments, and (2) what is the status of the crosswalk situation at Kennedy Manor? The Deputy explained that the complex legal agreement is being reviewed by our attorney, and said that the City is looking for retroactive payments for 2012. The Chairman noted that he had recent discussion with the Mayor regarding residential and commercial rates and limits of disposal for the WHA. The Mayor may possibly set up a meeting next week. Regarding the crosswalk, the Chairman discussed the political posturing that has taken place and said he has asked the Mayor to cut to the chase to resolve this dangerous situation. Commissioner Corbeille noted that there has been some action; new signs have been hung and the crosswalk has been painted. Commissioner Anthony noted that the trees should be cut back; they are a distraction to the crosswalk signs. There was some further discussion regarding the crosswalk and bus stop issue.

There was no further discussion. A roll call vote was taken; the following were the "Ayes" and "Nays".

AYES

NAYS

Chairman Lahousse
Vice Chairwoman Rochefort
Commissioner Anthony
Commissioner Baldelli
Commissioner Bouchard
Commissioner Corbeille
Commissioner Lemieux

7B. Reports of Direct Staff, Legal and Financial

Chairman Lahousse asked for a motion to receive and place on file, the reports of Direct Staff, Legal and Financial. A motion was made by Commissioner Baldelli and seconded by Commissioner Anthony.

Commissioner Baldelli asked for the family composition of the twelve new vouchers that the Section 8 department is porting in. There was some further discussion with Commissioner Lemieux regarding the Section 8 program. Commissioner Bouchard asked what would happen if the WHA gave up its Section 8 vouchers. Some other agency would absorb the vouchers and administer them. There was further conversation of the cost of public housing vs. the cost of Section 8.

There was no further discussion. A roll call vote was taken; the following were the "Ayes" and "Nays".

AYES

NAYS

Chairman Lahousse
Vice Chairwoman Rochefort
Commissioner Anthony
Commissioner Baldelli
Commissioner Bouchard
Commissioner Corbeille
Commissioner Lemieux

-
8. Report of Committees – None
 9. Unfinished Business - None
 10. New Business - None
 11. Adjournment

Chairman Lahousse asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by
Commissioner Baldelli and seconded by Vice Chairwoman Rochefort at 5:13 p.m.

Roll call vote was unanimous.

Robert Kulik, Executive Director